

assigning a first piece of information contained in the data packet to a second piece of information available to the network node;

determining, with the network node, a route for the data packet through the network to a destination address by determining at least one further network node through which the route passes based on the information; and

passing on the data packet to a next network node on the determined route to the destination address.

Claim 2 (amended). The method according to claim 1, which comprises uniquely determining the route of the data packet from the network node to a defined node of available nodes.

Claim 13 (amended). The method according to claim 1, which comprises providing an information service as the destination address, the information service being accessible by a user only after the user is registered in the service, and providing further information services accessible to the user at the same time.

Claim 22 (amended). An apparatus for routing data packets in a data network, comprising:

a processor for receiving, processing, and passing on the data packets;

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a first storage operatively connected to said processor for storing supplemental information relating to at least one of a user and services existing in the network;

a second storage operatively connected to said first storage for storing administrative information;

a mapper operatively connected to said first storage for determining a mapping of logic computer names on network addresses and vice versa; and

a router operatively connected to said processor for determining a route for each of the data packets, on the basis of information gathered from the data packets and the stored supplemental information, said router determining at least one node through which the route passes.

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Claim 24 (amended). The apparatus according to claim 22, including a server having access to said first storage including at least one of authentication data, access data, and charge data.

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Please add the following new claims:

-- 31. The method according to claim 1, which comprises:

05 receiving the data packet from a user who is not authorized for a requested service or action; and

providing a help desk for the user to get authorized for using the service or action.

32. The method according to claim 1, which comprises:

receiving the data from a user who is not authorized for requested services or action; and

providing a help desk for the user to get authorized to select various switching and information services or one of different service providers without having to clear a connection.

33. The method according to claim 1, which comprises:

determining a source information from the first piece of information from the data packet;

assigning the source information to a user;

determining providers of switching services or information services that are accessible to the user;

selecting from the switching services that are accessible to the user, those which offer transport of the data packet to a desired destination address;

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determining further boundary parameters from additional details in the data packet or from additional information which is assigned to the user and which can further limit selection of the switching services or the information services;

picking from selected switching services, those whose boundary parameters best match those of the user; and

assigning finally selected switching services thus destination addresses that can be accessed from a user profile in a database, and then passing on the data packet.

34. The apparatus according to claim 26, comprising a user interface providing an authorization of the user for using services provided in the network after occurrence of an error because the user is not registered.

35. The apparatus according to claim 36, comprising means for
selecting various switching and information services or
selecting one of different service providers without having to
clear a correction. --